

## **George M. Ogden to Andrew Jackson, February 3, 1815, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.**

### **GEORGE M. OGDEN TO JACKSON.**

New Orleans, February 3, 1815.

Previous to my leaving the British Ship “Royal Oak” on board of which vessel I had been detained a Prisoner of War, Major General Keane requested of me as a particular fav[o]r that on my return to New Orleans, I would make every exertion to obtain for him the sword he had worn in the action of the 8th January, and which had been left on the field when he was wounded and borne off—he stated that its intrinsic value was not great, the mounting being plain, and gilt only, but that being a present from an esteemed friend he would redeem it at any price and requested me to purchase it for him if it was to be sold—he further added, that should I find it in the hands of any Officer who valued it as a trophy of War, he would send in the place of it the handsomest sword that could be made in England, and consider himself obliged by the exchange.

Understanding Sir, that the sword in question is under your control, I have made the above statement with the fullest confidence that it will give you pleasure to have an opportunity of conferring a personal favor even on the General of your Enemy, and under the strongest conviction that our beloved Country is so well guarded, by the strong arms and undaunted hearts of her Citizens, that should it once more be drawn against us, (with the favor of heaven) we shall be enabled again to repel its force, and to parallize the arm that may wield it. With assurances of great respect etc<sup>1</sup>

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1 Jackson ordered the sword returned, and received from General Keane the following note, dated Feb. 8, 1814: "Major General Keane presents his best Respects to General Jackson and feels particularly thankful for the Kindness he has experienced from him through the medium of Colonel Livingstone. He is still farther obliged for General Jackson's Kind Wishes for his Recovery."

I remain